

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 EA-07 AID-05 IGA-02 AGR-05

CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07

NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 TRSE-00 ITC-01 STR-04 VO-03

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TO BRIDGETOWN 9353/9354

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 261638

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 11 LINE 6 OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BB, US

SUBJECT: MEETING OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHLAUDEMAN AND
BARBADIAN FONMIN FORDE

1. SUMMARY DURING A CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY
SHLAUDEMAN ON OCT 19, FONMIN FORDE RAISED SEVERAL GOB
CONCERNS, INCLUDING BILATERAL AID AND POSSIBLE CUBAN
REACTION TO THE AIR CUBANA CRASH. SHLAUDEMAN INDICATED
THAT THE CARIBBEAN WAS OF SPECIAL CONCERN TO HIM AND
THAT, WHILE THE OUTLOOK FOR BILATERAL AID WAS NOT
HOPEFUL, THE USG WOULD BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE WITHIN
ITS LEGISLATIVE AND FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS. END SUMMARY.

2. SUGAR: FORDE SAID THE GOB WAS HOPING FOR A HARVEST
OF 102,000-104,000 TONS BUT INDICATED THAT EXPORTS TO
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THE U.S. WERE NOT EXPECTED TO EXCEED GSP DUTY-FREE
LIMITATIONS. HE SAID THAT THE GOB WAS NOT MAKING
REPRESENTATIONS FOR ITSELF ON THE HIGHER SUGAR TARIFF
BUT WAS CONCERNED ABOUT ITS POSSIBLE EFFECT ON OTHER

CARIBBEAN PRODUCERS SUCH AS JAMAICA.

3. CIVIL AVIATION: ON THE INTERNATIONAL CARIBBEAN AIRLINES (ICA) APPLICATION TO THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD (CAB), FORDE SAID THE GOB WOULD RESPOND POSITIVELY

TO A BILATERAL AGREEMENT THAT GIVES SECURITY TO THE U.S. AIRLINE SO LONG AS THERE WAS RECIPROCITY FOR BARBADOS. HE ASKED SHLAUDEMANN TO CONVEY THIS TO THE CAB, TO WHICH SHLAUDEMANN REPLIED THAT HE WOULD TAKE UP THE QUESTION WITH THE TECHNICAL PEOPLE IN THE DEPT.

4. STUDENTS: FORDE SAID THE GOB WAS CONCERNED THAT BARBADIAN STUDENTS IN THE U.S. OFTEN NEED TO WORK AND

THAT THEY ARE CHARGED US DOLS 5 FOR A STUDENT VISA, APPARENTLY BECAUSE THE GOB CHARGES U.S. STUDENTS A SIMILAR FEE. FORDE SAID THE GOB WOULD BE GLAD TO ELIMINATE ITS FEE IF THE U.S. FEE TO BARBADIANS COULD ALSO BE WAIVED. SHLAUDEMANN SAID WE WOULD BE GLAD TO RECIPROCATATE, THAT, IN FACT, U.S. LAW REQUIRES RECIPROCITY.

5. OFFSHORE ASSEMBLY: FORDE ASKED FOR DEPT'S ASSISTANCE IN OPPOSING RESTRICTIONS ON OFFSHORE OPERATIONS OF U.S. COMPANIES SUCH AS THE NEW ELECTRONICS PLANT SCHEDULED TO EMPLOY 1,500 PERSONS. SHLAUDEMANN SAID THAT THE DEPT DID NOT FAVOR SUCH LEGISLATION.

6. LOAN GUARANTEES: FORDE INDICATED THAT THE GOB MAY HAVE TO PAY OFF ON TWO LOAN GUARANTEES OF BARBADOS DOLS 14.5 MILLION IT HAD UNDERTAKEN, INCLUDING DOLS 11.5 MILLION FOR A SHRIMP BOAT PROJECT IN WHICH TRINIDAD WAS A JUNIOR PARTNER. HE SAID TRINIDAD MIGHT COVER DOLS 1.7 MILLION OF THE DOLS 11.5 MILLION. HE ASSURED SHLAUDEMANN THAT FIRST NATIONAL BANK, WHICH UNDERWROTE BOTH LOANS, WILL GET ITS MONEY BACK BUT THAT THE LIABILITY IS LARGE ENOUGH TO BE A PROBLEM FOR THE CONFIDENTIAL

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GOB.

7. BILATERAL AID: FORDE SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT U.S. AID IN THE CARIBBEAN WAS PRIMARILY MULTILATERAL BUT THAT BARBADOS HAD FOUR PROBLEM AREAS FOR WHICH THEY WANTED TO SUGGEST BILATERAL AID OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. HE ASKED FOR MID-LEVEL FARM TECHNOLOGY EXPERTS FROM THE SOUTHERN U.S. AND THE PENNSYLVANIA MENNONITE AREAS TO HELP SET UP FARMING OPERATIONS IN BARBADOS AND TRAINING FOR BARBADIANS IN THE U.S. HE ALSO ASKED FOR TECHNICAL ADVICE AND FUNDS FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY OF CONTROL OF SERIOUS LAND EROSION IN THE SCOTLAND DISTRICT. HE ASKED FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION SPECIALISTS AND EQUIP-

MENT FOR BARBADOS' SCHOOL LEAVERS AND OTHER UNEMPLOYED YOUNG ADULTS AND SAID HE WOULD LIKE U.S. HELP IN EXPANDING A "CARIBBEAN PEACE CORPS" EFFORT TO USE THE EXPERTISE OF NEW TECHNICAL GRADUATES. HE SAID BARBADOS COULD

ALSO USE HELP IN TRAINING PERSONNEL FOR A NATIONAL HEALTH SCHEME AND AN EXPANDED DAY CARE PROGRAM SIMILAR TO THAT AVAILABLE AT THE KENNEDY CENTER IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

8. SHLAUDEMAN RESPONDED THAT OUR CONCENTRATION ON MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE AND AID TO THE "POOREST" COUNTRIES WAS IN PART CONGRESSIONALLY MANDATED AND WAS UNLIKELY TO BE CHANGED IN THE NEAR FUTURE BUT THAT WE WOULD DO ALL WE COULD WITHIN OUR LEGISLATIVE AND FINANCIAL LIMITATIONS TO BE HELPFUL, ESPECIALLY IN AGRICULTURE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT HE HAD A STRONG PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE CARIBBEAN AND THAT HE WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT THE USG MAINTAINED A CONTINUING INTEREST THERE. HE SUGGESTED THAT ASSISTANCE MIGHT BE AVAILABLE TO BARBADOS FROM THE REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS THE IDB ON THE SHRIMP FISHING PROJECT, THE WORLD BANK ON LAND CONSERVATION, AND THE CDB ON FINANCING OF DAY CARE CENTERS AND HEALTH CARE PROJECTS. HE SUGGESTED THE GOB ASK THE PEACE CORPS FOR TRAINING ASSISTANCE IN AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

9. CYPRUS: FORDE SAID THAT THE GOB'S POSITION IS CONFIDENTIAL

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SIMILAR TO THE USG'S -- TO SUPPORT THE JOINT COMMONWEALTH APPROACH TO GET THE PARTIES TO NEGOTIATE IN THE CONTEXT OF AN INDEPENDENT AND SOVEREIGN CYPRUS.

10. CHINA: FORDE TOLD SHLAUDEMAN THAT THE GOB HAS GOTTEN CONSIDERABLE FLACK FROM JAMAICA, GUYANA AND TRINIDAD ON ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA. HE SAID THAT THE GOB WOULD LIKE TO BE KEPT ADVISED OF U.S. MOVEMENT IN ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

11. CUBA: FORDE SAID THE GOB HOPED THE USG WOULD BE ABLE TO NORMALIZE ITS RELATIONS WITH CUBA, AND SHLAUDEMAN RESPONDED THAT NORMALIZATION WAS HARD TO PREDICT IN VIEW OF CUBA'S ACTIONS ON ANGOLA AND PUERTO RICO AND THE POSSIBLE TERMINATION OF THE HIJACKING AGREEMENT. FORDE SAID THAT CUBA WAS "VERY UP-TIGHT" ABOUT THE AIR CUBANA CRASH AND THAT THE GOB WOULD TIGHTEN ITS AIRPORT SECURITY. HE SAID THE GOB HOPED TO OBTAIN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON AIRPORT SECURITY FROM THE CANADIANS AND THE USG, TO WHICH SHLAUDEMAN REPLIED THAT OUR OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE IN THE

PAST FEW MONTHS WERE STILL VALID. FORDE INDICATED THAT
THE GOB WANTED TO AVOID GETTING CAUGHT UP IN A CUBAN
REACTION TO THE INCIDENT. KISSINGER

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